Lerch file

SCRIPT EIGHT JOHN LERCH

REPORT FROM JAPAN

MUSIC: THEME ESTABLISH (5 SECONDS) UNDER

ANNCR: REPORT FROM JAPAN (EMPHASIS). A program of information and commentary treating current issues in Japan. This program is produced on tape recording in Tokyo. Here now is your host: John Lerch.

MUSIC: THEME OUT

LERCH: We are fortunate today in that we have two distinguished guests: ~~an American art critic living and working~~ in Tokyo, Mme. Elise Grilli. And our second guest is Mr. Yoshinobu Masuda one of Japan's leading artists who returned to Tokyo quite recently from a year's study in America. Our guests are professionally established in their fields. Quite naturally, then, our subject is art. And we shall put full attention on this right after we hear the news highlights.

MUSIC: RADIO DOCUMENTARY MARCH (NEWSREEL) ESTABLISH BRIEFLY. UNDER

ANNCR: HIGHLIGHTS IN THE NEWS FROM JAPAN! (PAUSE) Packaged milk, put up in half-pint containers, will soon go on the market.

LERCH: Milk-drinkers in Tokyo will welcome the appearance of fresh milk sold in paper cartons. In the near future the price, fixed by government regulation, is 12 yen per carton, or about 4 cents. Several commercial dairies are taking part in the experiment. Tokyo is to be the first city offering inexpensive pure milk; sold in this manner the idea will be followed later by other cities.

ANNCR: Artificial Body Parts (ears, noses, arms and legs) are made of resin by a Japanese Doctor.

LERCH: Professor Akiyama of the Japan Dental College has succeeded in producing life-like body parts, with a new soft polyester resin.

Besides being light in weight, these products are quite realistic having natural color, wrinkles, and a faint suggestion of blood vessels. Several hundred disfigured persons in Tokyo already attest the ingenuity and practicality of these artificial but life-like body parts.

ANNCR: The Economic Planning Board reveals (in a published survey of Japan's total economy) that life has been amazingly "Americanized" in the post-war years.

LERCH: Revolutionary Americanization in the post-war dress of Japanese, in their eating habits, their housing reconstruction, and all phases of living...this is the finding of the Economic Planning Board. Under the title "Present Trends in the Changing National Life", the changes, and influence on the structure of the country's industries are analyzed. Reasons for such adaption to the American style of life are largely because: 1) the constant inflow of convenient daily necessities. 2) mass communications media have helped promote the use of new products 3) increased national income resulting partly from the Korean War boom has enabled people to extend and expand their mode of living.

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY THEME UP BRIEFLY AND OUT

ANNCR: These have been highlights in the News from Japan. (PAUSE) Now, Mr. Lerch turns to his guests: Mrs. Elise Grilli and Mr. Yoshinobu Masuda.

LERCH: The author of "Art, East and West" a frequent column in the English language newspaper, the Japan Times, Mrs. Elise Grilli, is seated with me today. Mrs. Grilli is also the author of a number of books on Japanese artists (Hokusai and Sotatsu). Let's start out, Mrs. Grilli, with your recent statement that "Japan is one of the richest art-gifted nations in the world."

GRILLI:

LERCH: You speak, too, of the presence of "intuitive art"... of understanding of materials, proportion and colors. And you have told me that every Japanese child seems born with clever fingers and a knowledge of the purity of art.

GRILLI: Simplicity. Skill. Artistry. Beauty.

LERCH: Mrs. Grilli, let's talk about the woodblock prints. Would you throw some light on Japanese prints and their history?

GRILLI: Technical development due to Buddhist influence. Wood cuts intended for artistic appreciation by the privileged classes. The term "Ukiyoe" means a picture depicting the fleeting world of mundane life. Ukiyoe themes: flowers, birds, etc.

LERCH: Am I correct in saying that the subjects treated by ukiyoe painters depicted the ordinary events of the times: common sights and experiences? Wood cuts, then, developed into an art for popular appreciation.

GRILLI: Yes. Down to the middle of the 17th century, the fine arts had been the almost exclusive preserve of the warriors, nobility, the priests. Ukiyoe, painted by hand, were admired and treasured by tradesmen, too. Some were large enough to be made into kakemono or hanging scrolls, or framed pictures, some could be collected in albums, others put on walls or screens. These prints were meant to be democratic substitutes for the handpainted pictures treasured in aristocratic circles.

LERCH: Japanese wood block prints have qualities all ~~their~~ their own, from what I've seen. The ukiyoe painters liked the gay life, worldly activities: girls, geishas, and street scenes. Is there any parallel in Western art: Toulouse Lautrec or Hogarth?

GRILLI:

LERCH: Please name some of the classic wood block print artists.

GRILLI: Utamaro, Hiroshige, Hokusai.

LERCH: ~~Mr.~~ Mt. Fuji, for example, seen from Kanagawa by Hokusai is wonderfully striking and strange... It gives the essence of Fuji, but hardly could be called "realistic."

GRILLI: (REALISM)

LERCH: Here are two questions rolled into one, Mrs. Grilli. What is there that is truly, purely original that Japan has to offer the rest of the world in art? Secondly, are there any signs of a new movement, a new and significant trend in Japanese art?

GRILLI:

LERCH: Many thanks, Mrs. Elise Grilli for visiting with us, and informing us about Japanese art. As I mentioned at the beginning, today is a double header in that we have with us in the studio Mr. Yoshinobu Masuda, an eminently successful, practicing artist. Mr. Masuda was invited to the States last year by the Exchange of Persons Program, and he got back here just a few days ago. Welcome, home, Mr. Masuda!

MASUDA:

LERCH: Mr. Masuda, I believe you have your home and studio in Kamakura... which is in commuting distance of Tokyo. This is something of an artists' colony, is it not. Like Carmel or TAOS New Mexico in the States. Bucks County, Pennsylvania in the Eastern half.

MASUDA:

LERCH: You work in oils, do you not. And how long have you been practicing in this profession.

MASUDA: 30 years...

LERCH: Your career has taken you to Europe, and all over the world. Has this internationalism entered into your painting? Or do you stick to native Japanese themes?

MASUDA:

LERCH: Mr. Masuda, what is your particular interest in art? That is are you trying to develop a new form, are you a modernist, a traditionalist?

MASUDA: Expressing oriental spirit in art.

LERCH: Someone has said that a picture represents a point of view. This point of view is usually intelligible to those who share with the artist the experience the painting represents. I believe that many Americans regard Japanese painting as a very exotic and special kind of thing. As esoteric and removed from reality, often as the delicate and fragile subjects painted.

MASUDA:

LERCH: Mr. Masuda, do you rely on the sale of your pictures for a livelihood, or do you do as most painters over here, do something else as well.

MASUDA: Design book covers, teach a group of amateurs.

LERCH: Generally, what is the economic picture among painters in Japan?

MASUDA: Same here as all over the world, bad.

LERCH: Do young artists get scholarships, grants or subsidies from the government or universities if they have talent and show promise?

MASUDA: (TALK ABOUT ASSOCIATIONS) Japanese Artist Association.

LERCH: Since you have just returned from the States, I'd like to ask you if you think the current Japanese "fad" in interior decorating and in some architectural adaptations is going to last or is it as I've said a "fad"?

MASUDA:

LERCH: Thank you, Mr. Yoshinobu Masuda for an illuminating discussion. This is John Lerch in Tokyo, bidding you sayonara until next week at this time.

THEME MUSIC: UP AND UNDER

ANNCR: Tape recorded each week in Tokyo, REPORT FROM JAPAN is written and produced by John Lerch.

MUSIC: UP AND OUT

E N D

SCRIPT ELEVEN

JOHN LERCH

REPORT FROM JAPAN

MUSIC: THEME ESTABLISH (5 secs.) UNDER

ANNCR: REPORT FROM JAPAN (EMPHASIS). A program of information and commentary treating current issues in Japan. This program is produced on tape recording in Tokyo. Here now is your host: John Lerch.

MUSIC: THEME OUT

LERCH: We have a distinguished visitor today, Mr. Marcel Grilli, program advisor for the International Department of NHK (or the Japan Broadcasting Company). However, Mr Grilli visits us in his special capacity of musicologist and eminent music critic for the Japan Times. Before talking about music, we do have some items of interest which have made big news over here.

MUSIC : DOCUMENTARY MARCH (UP BRIEFLY AND OUT)

ANNCR: Highlights in the News from Japan! (slight pause). A Japanese pearl diver in the Arafura Sea, north of Australia, is reported to have discovered the largest pearl in the world.

LERCH: Yuji Hama, a diver with A pearl expedition stated recently that he had found a 70 carat pearl. The Japan Pearl Shell Company confirms the report, and this pearl (so far given no special name) is claimed to be the biggest in the world— five carats larger than the previous king of pearls.

ANNCR: A pagoda to house the ashes of Buddha is planned. The pagoda, expected to cost about 6 million dollars, will be built in a Tokyo suburb.

LERCH : A specially constructed pagoda ENSHRINING ~~in which~~ the ashes of Buddha AND presented by Indian Prime Minister Nehru ~~are to be enshrined~~ will be built in the suburbs of Tokyo. Construction of the pagoda is to begin soon under the spansorship of a group of Buddhist leaders who form the Japan Buddha Association. The pagoda, designed by a leading religious architectural expert, will be made of ferro-concrete and will rise 150 feet. An "eternal light" at the very tip will illuminate the pagoda area at night.

ANNCR: The Italian Import-Export Committee approved " balanced" exchanges of goods between Italy and Japan which makes for greater economic cooperation.

LERCH: The committee, with headquarters in Rome, has approved the export of

LERCH : Italian mandolins and guitars against the importation of Japanese porcelain goods, lacqured woods, and decorative household articles. Italian trade circles point out that more and more Italian goods are finding their way to Japan; and it is expected that more Japanese export items will be welcomed onto the Italian market.

ANNCR: With the rise of Japan's population to an even 90 million, editorials have recently appeared in the press commenting on the population problem. Mr. Lerch has selected an editorial from the JAPAN TIMES.

LERCH: This editorial is entitled, quite simply: Population: 90,000,000 !

Japan continues to face the problem of over-population. The balance between Japan's territory and resources on the one hand; and the number of people, on the other, is broken. The importance of the problem is highlighted by the latest report that Japan's population has PASSED the 90 million mark. In August, 1954, the Population Problems Research Council, realizing the need for quantitative adjustment of the population made a recommendation to the government for a greater information program regarding planned parenthood. This is not a measure that can solve the population at once; but if left alone, as it now stands, the balance between population and resources will aggravate.

Two of the undesirable results of over-population are apparent in unemployment and poverty. It is also causing undue concentration of people in the big cities. Although there was an unprecedented " bumper harvest" last year, 10 thousand more people still flocked to Tokyo. There are not enough jobs to go around, which surely everyone realizes. The gap between wealth and poverty is increasing. Although Japan suffers from a lack of resources in comparison with population, greater efforts are needed to develop the available land resources. The population problem, however, is at the root of the majority of problems faced by Japan.

This appeared on the front page of a recent JAPAN TIMES.

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY MARCH UP AND OUT. (5 seconds).

LERCH: I am very pleased to have as my guest, Mr. Marcel Grilli, program advisor for the International Department of NHK.

(to end of interview)

MUSIC: THEME UP AND UNDER BRIEFLY

ANNCR: Written and produced by John Lerch, REPORT FROM JAPAN is tape recorded in Tokyo

MUSIC: THEME TO END

2:35

Interview: Mr. Marcel Grilli

LERCH: I am very pleased to have as my guest today Mr. Marcel Grilli, program advisor for the International Department of NHK. In addition to his programming duties with the government-operated radio station in Tokyo, Mr. Grilli writes the musical reviews for the JAPAN TIMES and has gained a considerable reputation in Japan as a chronicler and critic of musical performances and events in Japan. Let's start out by asking you, Mr. Grilli to tell us something about contemporary Japanese music from an historical point of view.

GRILLI: (discusses the importation of Western music during the Meiji Period and the internationalization of Japanese music. Also mentions a few instruments: the samisen; the shakuhachi; the koto.

LERCH: Bringing us right up to date, Mr. Grilli, we have a new symphony organization, The Japan America Philharmonic Orchestra which made its debut not long ago. Tell us something about this combined effort.

GRILLI: The orchestra consists of two halves of unequal size and complexion-- a string body of 60 Japanese musicians, and an American group of 36 wind and percussion players. John Barnett (ass't conductor of the Los Angeles Symphony has welded this group together). But there are two more orchestras on the scene: the ABC Symphony; the Nippon Philharmonic. Altogether there are six major professional orchestras operating in Tokyo.

LERCH: I suppose ballet and opera are also included in the repertoires. How are these orchestras financed.. who really picks up the tab?

GRILLI:

LERCH: You would say that there is plenty of musical activity in Tokyo?

GRILLI: mention the Ashahi concerts presently in Tokyo under Edouard Strauss.

LERCH: Here is a tough question, but I'd like to ask it: Are the Japanese essentiall a musical people.. a singing people such as the Italians or the Germans?

GRILLI:

LERCH: Are Westerners becoming increasingly aware of the beauty of Japanese music? What is being done to further this...

GRILLI: refer to Columbia LP's etc.

LERCH: Mr. Grilli, I see that you brought a recording with you, and I'd like you to take over now as our disc-jockey if you will. What is the selection you intend to play.

GRILLI: Talks about first selection (GAGAKU) or court music... play selection of this for no more than one and one-half minutes.

LERCH: And the second musical offering is a contemporary work. Suppose you comment on this...

GRILLI: Talks and introduces second disc. Second number to play for no more than one and one-half minutes. Comment on this after playing.

LERCH: The sounds of Japanese music require attentive listening, and then appreciation follows I presume for the connoisseur. Do Japanese composers use the same (Western scale) and tonal values. Are themes expressed by contemporary composers usually Oriental in spirit or Western?

GRILLI:

LERCH: Would you name some of the " brighter lights" among Japanese composers?

GRILLI:

LERCH: Let's finish by discussing the " high fiddlity era" in Japan expecially in the coffee houses. I suppose this has given a boost to Western music, jazz expecially.

GRILLI:

LERCH: (TIME PERMITTING. FILL QUESTION): What are the special contributions of Japanese music. what might be learned or incorporated by Western musicians. (Kabuki music, for example.)

(2nd fill question: Folk Music and specialties of the regions.)

Music in the schools, music for youth, choral representations at colleges.

GRILLI:

LERCH: My thanks, Mr. Grilli for visiting with us today and bringing a sample ~~of two widely different types of~~ values Japanese music with you. This is John Lerch in Tokyo bidding you sayonara until next week at this time.

MUSIC: THEME UP AND UNDER BRIEFLY

ANNCR: Written and [redacted] produced by John Lerch, REPORT FROM JAPAN is tape-recorded in Tokyo.

MUSIC: THEME TO END. UP AND OUT.

#

SCRIPT TWELVE

JOHN LERCH

REPORT FROM JAPAN

MUSIC: Theme (establish) Fade under

ANNCR: Report from Japan! (emphasis). A program of information and commentary treating current issues in Japan. This program is produced on tape recording in Tokyo. Here, now, is your host: John Lerch.

MUSIC: THEME OUT

LERCH; This is our concluding Report from Japan, and we are very fortunate to have as our guest, Mr. William Woodard, director of the International Institute for the Study of Religions. Mr. Woodard will inform us about the 2500th anniversary of the death of Buddha. Let's turn attention right now, however, to some items of general interest in the news.

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY (NEWSREEL) ESTABLISH UNDER.

ANNCR: Highlights in the News from Japan! Keio University receives a generous Rockefeller Grant.

LERCH: The largest AMERICAN grant in the Far East went toward restoration of facilities of the School of Medicine at Keio University. The Rockefeller Foundation grant of $290,000 will be matched by an equal sum from the university, for rebuilding the School of Medicine.

ANNCR: A solar heat cooker will make its debut in Japan soon.

LERCH: A solar heat cooker, completed by an Optical research Institute in Tokyo is expected to make its ORIGINAL appearance here. ~~soon.~~ The cooker, using a simple reflector to make use of the sun's rays is designed to cook a small portion of rice in an hour. It will sell for about $8.00 a unit, and should prove useful in such fuel-short countries as India. A major drawback is that it cannot be used at night or on rainy days!

ANNCR: There are now 139,700 television sets in Japan

LERCH: Tokyo led the list by a wide margin with 140,000 sets. Osaka came next with 56,000 sets followed by Nagoya and SENDAI

ANNCR: There is a new plan to double Japan's merchant fleet.

LERCH: The Japan shipowner's association decided recently that Japan should have at least a total tonnage of 8,870,000 tons to recover its pre-war strength. This decision will be ~~SHORTLY~~ IN THE NEAR FUTURE submitted to the Tranportation Ministry. (G. ROSS)

ANNCR: Japanese scholars will help compile a Buddhist encyclopedia.

LERCH: Japanese Buddhist scholars will shortly undertake with Ceylon the arduous task of compiling an encyclopedia on Buddhism in English. The joint undertaking was proposed by Ceylon to mark the current Jayanti or 2500th anniversary of the death of Guatama Buddha. The compilation of the projected encyclopedia will require the participation of authorities from 20 nations, led by Japanese and Ceylonese scholars.

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY MARCH UP AND OUT

LERCH: It is my pleasure now to introduce Mr. William Woodard, director of the International Institute for the Study of Religions. Mr. Woodard is a long-time resident of Japan, and a competent scholar and commentator on religious matters. By way of a very quick introduction, you have already heard on this program and elsewhere I'm sure that this is the year of the the Buddha Jayanti... with elaborate ceremonies and pageantry. Tell us, Mr. Woodard, how is the event observed in Japan? (PRINCE + Princess Mikasa visiting Ceylon)

(2) Will you comment on the doctrine of Dhamma.. which apparently was given by the dying Buddha to his disciples.

(3) Could you name some of the outstanding qualities in the life and person of Buddha?

(4) Is there a " golden rule" or are there Ten Commandments ?

(5) What is the main contribution of Buddhism to Japanese culture?

(6) Are there any sectarian divisions in Japan? (rise of Shintoism.. after the war) (What is the relation between Shintoism & Buddhism)

(7) Is there a common basis for understanding or for cooperation between Occidentals and the followers of Buddha?

LERCH; I want to thank you so much Mr. Woodard for discussing Buddhism and its importance not only to Japan but to the whole world, on this the final issue of REPORT FROM JAPAN. And I can only hope that our listeners have enjoyed this series as much as I have. For the last time, then, this is John Lerch in Tokyo bidding you Sayonara.

MUSIC: THEME UP AND OUT.

ANNCR: Tape-recorded in Tokyo, REPORT FROM JAPAN is written and produced by John Lerch.

MUSIC: THEME UP AND OUT

10 -

3:-
11:30

NOTE: Item 3 in Newsreel can be re-recorded before you release the series

SCRIPT ONE: JOHN LERCH

Ted Carlstrom

REPORT FROM JAPAN

MUSIC: THEME. ESTABLISH (5 SECONDS) UNDER

ANNCR: REPORT FROM JAPAN (EMPHASIS) A program of information and commentary treating current issues in Japan. This program is produced on tape recording in Tokyo. Here, now is your host: John Lerch.

MUSIC: THEME OUT

LERCH: This is our introductory report from Japan. First, we'll take a bird's eye view of the country, its people, and the strengthening national economy.

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY (NEWSREEL) ESTABLISH UNDER

ANNCR: HIGHLIGHTS IN THE NEWS--FROM JAPAN.

The growth of population in Japan is phenomenal.

MUSIC: OUT

(1) LERCH: The Japanese population has grown at the rate of 7.3 per cent during the past five years, and the nation's six major cities are faced with an increasing influx of people from the rural areas according to a report just released from the Statist... Bureau.

Japan now ranks fifth in the world following China, India, Soviet Russia, and the United States. Japan ranks with the Netherlands and Belgium as one of the countries with the highest rate of population density. There are now five cities in Japan with over 1 million people. Tokyo: 6,900,000; Osaka: 2,500,000; Nagoya, 1,300,000; Kyoto: 1,200,000; Yokohama: 1,150,000 and Kobe an even million.

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY. UP. UNDER

ANNCR: Professor Reichshauer of Harvard declares the stirring of Asia toward modernization more important than the cold war between free and communist nations.

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY. OUT

(2) LERCH: Dr. Edwin Reichshauer of Harvard, noted author of Japan Past and Present this week stated in Tokyo that Japan's modernization was the most important single event in the Far East. Dr. Reichshauer speaking at the Industry Club pointed out that a great role awaits Japan in holding Asia.... and this importance lies in the ideological field. In the past, Japan proved that an Asian nation could modernize and keep step with the West. In the future, Japan could demonstrate that democracy will work in an Asian country; and the emperience of the Japanese people can be of immense service to the rest of Asia. Dr. Reichshauer deplored the spiritual isolation of Japan in Asia, at present, but predicted that the gap between the Japanese and other Asian peoples would be bridged in time.

This item will be CUT + re-recorded later

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY UP AND UNDER

ANNCR: (3) Osaka is busy organizing this year's Trade Fair.

LERCH: There is a festive air in Osaka (the business center of Japan) in anticipation of the third International Trade Fair to be held there between April 8 and 22.

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY OUT

ANNCR: These are highlights in the News from Japan... now for the commentary on Japan and Her People here is John Lerch!

LERCH: Let's take a look now at this fascinating country more properly called NIHON. (PAUSE) Standing on the

bridge of heaven, the two deities, Izanagi and Izanami, looked down upon the great ocean. Izanagi dipped his jeweled spear in the water, and as he lifted it, salt water dropped from the point and solidified to form the first of the islands of Japan. Izanagi and Izanami descended to the new land, married, and began to people heaven and earth. By washing his left eye, Izanagi produced the Sun Goddess, Amaterasu-O-mikami. She took over the rule of heaven and passed earth over to her grandson and his descendants, the Emperors of Japan. This is the beguiling Shintoist explanation of origins - right down to the present Emperor. Thus, Japan's primitive folk religion of nature gods and divine ancestors is linked from its beginning with the Japanese throne. The result was SHINTO - the way of the gods - and although officially abolished after the war, it has seen a new birth. In fact 80,000 of the original 110,000 shrines are back in operation.

Let's turn to the land of Fujiyama itself. The first glimpse of Japan is apt to be disappointing to the stranger-- the environs of Haneda airport or the Yokohama and Kobe Docks are less impressive than are most national entrance gateways. But once the traveler is ashore, and reaches the Japan that lies beyond the initial drabness, a transformation happens. The impact of Japan varies with the individual, but surprisingly (often) Japan makes an impression such as is rarely created elsewhere upon experienced travelers away from their homelands.

This beguiling fact, attested by many who have known Japan best and longest, was impressed on me when I

returned to this country a few months ago. On the boat were people who had lived in Tokyo for many years, and others coming here for the first time. Both groups had visited many of the fabled places of the world--as from Europe to Hongkong. It would have been difficult to decide which category of traveler was the most anxious to get ashore.

The strange allure which Japan exercises on so many minds is in evidence around the world-- I've met many people in many lands who knew Japan in former days and upon whom this country has left a deep and abiding imprint. For you see, there is such a thing (call it a cliche if you will) as the "lure of the Orient". By comparison with most of Europe-- and still more so the well-to-do cities of the United States--- Japanese towns are dirty, drab, over-populated, and lacking in elementary facilities. The country's roads are for the most part not worthy of the name. Tokyo's stores are colorful, but a sad letdown after the States.

Yet, the fact remains that the magnetic tug of Japan triumphs over these disadvantages, and large numbers of Westerners see this country as a most fascinating and attractive land-- a nation in which they can feel more completely at home than in many of the better-endowed places of the earth. People who can turn their backs upon the cities of Europe without a qualm, admit they seldom depart Japan's shores without a certain sadness of parting-- and return here with a warm inner feeling of contentment.

The explanation of this phenomenon lies, I belie

not in the material but the mental sphere-- in the atmosphere created by the Japanese people and the nation's conduct of its daily life. Returning to Japan after two years in the States, I am (again) impressed by its apparent peace and contentment. Despite many problems, the Japanese still smile more than most people. Public officials-- at least those with whom the visitor comes into contact-- are courteous and friendly. And to a unique degree the whole Yamato race gives an impression of being interested in the visitor's comfort and concerned to make the stranger feel welcome.

Add to that the quiet beauty of the country, a deep sense of tradition and timelessness, plus the simplicity and graciousness of Japanese life at its best, and it is not difficult to understand the impact which Japan makes upon many foreign minds.

VOICE II: Japan is an Asian nation inhabited by a race of people who a century ago were living in, and conditioned by, an agrarian economy which had remained unchanged through centuries. Then came the Meiji miracle-- and railroads, spinning mills, shipyards, modern armaments, big business, parliamentary government, hydro-electric plants, diplomacy, exports and imports, a growing bureaucracy, and the Westerners with their new ideas. Almost overnight, as the progress of nations is measured, everything changed. Everything, that is, except the people of Japan, who continued to order their lives in accordance with 17th century notions, traditions and beliefs even as they tended 20th century machines and by their energies transformed this nation from a primitive agricultural economy into a world power.

While this country lags behind the West in some aspects of government and social consciousness and technical skills, it has on the other hand retained enough of the former Japan and its graces to remind one that its life is still fashioned and conditioned by the traditions of centuries. And so it happens that there are few foreigners who, seeing today's Japan through Western eyes, are not alternately discouraged and encouraged by the atmosphere and conditions existing in a land which is materially modern and mentally ancient. An amalgam of old and new, of Lafcadio Hearn and big business, of cherry blossoms and financial regulations.

Measured by a Western yardstick, it is not difficult to find things to criticize. Japanese thinking is still largely influenced by the feudal past. It is a man's country, which neglects one of its biggest assets-- its educated women. Basic human rights are guaranteed by the Constitution, but around 35,000 violations of those rights are reported annually (and the Justice Ministry employs only thirteen officials to investigate them.). Sixty years after the creation of the Diet, Japanese democracy remains undigested and undemocratic. The nation's debt to the foreigner and foreign technology grows larger every year (the speedy development of radar and other electronic devices in this country since 1951 is a recent example) yet there exists a reluctance to admit it.

The national economy rests upon overseas trade. The maximum development of that trade depends upon the cooperation of foreign experts in international commerce here in Japan, not only American but British, French, Swiss, Swedish and many others. Yet Japanese authority not only hedges those foreigners in with

red tape, but penalizes them with a varied and luxuriant array of taxes.

Japan, which to its credit has never subscribed to the theory a nation can sell without buying, does hold to the idea that the world owes this nation a living-- and that in between struggling with import permits and customs red tape foreign businessmen should be ever willing and happy to help Japan when necessary.

Such are a few of the criticisms which may fairly be leveled against this country if the comparison is made with the procedures and outlook of the West. If the comparison is with other Asian nations, which constitutes a more accurate and reasonable yardstick, then Japan shows up as a modern and advanced nation and one with an enviable record for profits in its international dealings.

The most remarkable single fact about postwar Japan is the degree of success with which an additional fifteen million people are being provided for-- somehow and with no unemployment crisis-- with exports still running well below prewar levels. The next most remarkable fact is that, despite low incomes, rising prices, and an acute shortage of housing and space, the country remains tranquil, and people reasonably contented. Therefore, the nation's social problems differ widely in nature and degree from those confronting wealthier Western countries, and they must be solved in the Japanese way.

LERCH: This requires on our part, patience, understanding and perhaps, for good measure,

a few grains of Oriental fatalism.

This is John Lerch in Tokyo bidding you ...

Sayonara until next week at this time. After taking a critical look at Japanese television, we'll chat with Professor Oreste Vaccari prolific author of dictionaries and textbooks, notably the much-used Japanese in a Hurry; and we'll visit with Mr. John Ishimoto, Tokyo businessman who will sketch Japanese attitudes towards America.

MUSIC: THEME UP AND OUT

ANNCR: Tape recorded each week in Tokyo, REPORT FROM JAPAN is written and produced by JOHN LERCH.

END

John Lerch file

Acknowledged

SCRIPT SEVEN

JOHN LERCH

REPORT FROM JAPAN

MUSIC: THEME ESTABLISH (5 SECS) UNDER

ANNCR: REPORT FROM JAPAN (EMPHASIS) A program of information and commentary, treating current issues in Japan. This program is produced on tape recording in Tokyo. Here now is your host, John Lerch.

MUSIC: THEME OUT

LERCH: This time we have an interview with Louis Segaloff, American writer living in Tokyo who recently published a most interesting article: The Bid for the Japanese Masses. Our main focus today, however, is on Japanese Universities and their spectacular post-war growth. But let's listen now to the Highlights in the News:

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY MARCH (UP BRIEFLY AND O/T):

ANNCR: Highlights in the News from Japan!

In ten years' time, the present Metropolis of Tokyo will become "greater Tokyo"--a vast city 43½ miles in diameter, containing Chiba, Hachioji, Kamakura, and Yokohama.

LERCH: The Japanese Diet passed a bill known as the Bill for Capital Re-Arrangement which is expected to come into force within a year. Under the bill, the future "greater Tokyo" will become a city of belts: a "green belt" suburban area, an "outer belt" that extends as far as 43½ miles from Tokyo Central Station, and the present downtown "inner belt." The new project calls for a totally new system of roads, overpasses, and electric trains will replace street cars downtown. No factories will be allowed in the green belt areas, where the Committee intends to build botanical gardens, parks, hospitals and schools. Factories will be built

in the outer-belt area in order to absorb people now commuting into Tokyo. The re-modeling plan will take 10 years.

ANNCR: The monopolizing all-powerful Zaibatsu of pre-war fame are gone for good.

LERCH: In Japan, there never will again be the equivalent of the Rothschilds, Morgans, and Krupps. In a panel discussion reproduced in an issue of the magazine BUNGEI SHUNJU, Hachiroemon Mitsui, head of the Mitsui family, says that none of the ex-Zaibatsu has the financial strength to recombine their dismembered monopolies. "They can't and they shouldn't" remarked ex-Baron Mitsui of the 300-year-old business clan that once spun a strong web all over Japan. For example, at the end of the war 17 such families or combined interests controlled 25% of the total business capital of Japan.

ANNCR: The United States is to give Japan Milk and Wheat for School Lunches.

LERCH: The United States will provide Japan with about 15 million dollars in wheat and powdered milk to expand the Japanese school lunch program, the International Cooperation Administration announces. The program benefits more than 7 million school children. Japan will pay the shipping costs, and will be expected to expand the program later entirely on its own.

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY MARCH UP AND UNDER

ANNCR: You have been listening to Highlights in the News from Japan. (PAUSE) We turn attention now to Tokyo--the University City. For Tokyo, is truly the Center of Learning, the citadel of books and intellectual activity for all Japan. Higher education in Japan has expanded tremendously, but it faces many problems.

LERCH: Within the city boundaries are 147 of the nation's 494

universities and colleges and nearly half of Japan's university students--264,299 out of 609,573. There are six national universities and a number of well-known private institutions in other cities, but most of the leading schools are in Tokyo--Tokyo (formerly Tokyo Imperial) University, the nation's first-ranking school; such famous private schools as Waseda, Keio, Meiji and Hosei; outstanding institutions in commerce, engineering, law, medicine and education; as well as a host of less well known colleges.

Japan is currently in the midst of a boom in higher education. The number of four-year universities has increased from 52 before the war to 226, second only to the number of universities in the United States. The policy of the Japanese Government is to have at least one university in each of the nation's 46 prefectures. There are also some 267 gtwo-year colleges giving technical and semi-professional courses of study. The present number of university and college students is seven times the prewar figure.

This great expansion in higher education has arisen in part from keener competition for desirable jobs. The old, established universities are swamped with applicants seeking admission, but limited facilities have forced them to restrict admission to one out of every 10 applicants, and in extreme cases, one out of every 40 or 50. Nevertheless, enrolments are swollen--Keio, for example, has 24,000 students. The pressure on the less well-known institutions is relatively light, and the overall picture suggests that any student determined to acquire a college education can get one.

The Japanese Government is firmly committed to the principle of more higher education for more people. Although Japan's new higher education has already many achievements to its

credit, it faces numerous problems and widespread criticism. Seventy-five per cent of university students are unable to find suitable jobs after graduation. The problem of the unemployed university graduate was a chronic one even before the war, but its seriousness has been underlined by the recent heavy increase of these highly educated young men and women who find that society has no place for them.

Conservative critics argue that Japan's former system of higher education, patterned on European models, was better suited to her needs. Her history and social structure were more like those of Europe--a relatively conservative and static society of feudal origin, with a majority of small farmers, a fairly large industrial labor force, and a moderate-sized middle class. In the intellectual interests of this society, the best was esthetic and philosophical rather than technical and social. Japan had need only for a small number of university graduates.

The proponents of the new policy in higher education point out that Japan is now in the midst of profound and complex changes and she will need all the intelligence and knowledge she can muster. The function of education must be not a passive but a dynamic one--to build a better society. A free society inevitably benefits in the long run from the spread of higher education.

In Japan, as in other technologically advanced countries, graduates in science and engineering have little trouble finding jobs. About one out of every four university students is in a scientific or technical field, but supply is well behind demand.

It is a harsh commentary on Japan's inability to provide adequately for her men of learning that so many of her leading

scientists and scholars are now working abroad and often do their best work in other countries. However, the Japenese scholar's tradition of complete devotion to his studies continues, and in Japan, notable advances have been made in nearly all fields of knowledge. Moreover, improving economic circumstances are making possible steady increases in research budgets.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ THEME UP AND OUT _ _ _

LERCH: Our guest today is Louis Segaloff, formerly editor and publisher of the weekly Kyushu Herald. A former Air Force officer, Louis has travelled widely in South East Asia, married a Japanese, and lived how long in Japan?

SEGALOFF: About 5 years.....

LERCH: The first time I saw your name in print, Louis, was in connection with a striking article entitled: Why I married a Japanese. I imagine you've had a lot of response to that article.

SEGALOFF: From all over Japan and Korea.....

LERCH: And before we turn to your current article, I wonder if you would sum up your stand, as it were, on the marriage question.

SEGALOFF:

LERCH: You present Japan, Louis, in this article as the potential and active target for propaganda from both sides: Communist and Free World. Ninety million highly literate people bombarded with views through newspapers, books, pamphlets, posters, speeches, radio and television.

SEGALOFF: Yes. The high literacy rate, the highest per capita ownership of radio sets in Asia, their "open-ness" to cultural information make the Japanese an accessible target.

LERCH: How does this "clamor for attention," this flood of information and mis-information break down?

SEGALOFF: Well, propaganda from Europe seems to take mainly a cultural form: art exhibits, concert tours, motion pictures, works of literature. Several nations have established in Japan small libraries, containing mainly their own works, naturally. The United States, having a more direct interest in Japan, has a more extensive operation. Abiding by the terms of the Administrative Agreement between the United States and Japan, the American Armed Forces carry on no propaganda effort directed at the Japanese people. Fortunately, a large percentage of the information about the United States is imported by the Japanese people commercially in the form of great quantities of magazines, motion pictures, business and trade journals, technical publications, and books. Radio programs are broadcast by the Voice of America in the United States Information Service, an official agency which maintains fourteen Culture Centers in Japan, encourages the translation and publication of better American books, distributes material to the press and other publications, circulates documentary and educational films, arranges exhibits, and generally publicizes the United States....Some information originates from the private Asia Foundation; but, their main effort seems to be directed towards siding local groups who are effectively promoting Free World ideals. Press releases are regularly issued by such as the Republic of China and the Republic of India. Other Asian nations offer some information service through their diplomatic offices in Japan. On the whole, however, the Free Asian nations lack the technology and experience to effectively propagandize a nation such as Japan. Their occational radio broadcasts directed at Japan, for instance are not widely received.

SEGALOFF: The communist nations, on the other hand, have a highly skilled and experienced corps of propagandists hard at work constantly promoting their interests. From such centers as Moscow, Peiping, Pyongyang, and Vladivostok, regular and frequent radio programs are beamed to the Japanese. Until late last year, the Communists operated a station, ironically called "Radio Free Japan" devoted entirely to Japan and broadcasting from Red China. Commercial trading companies, dealing almost exclusively in material from the Communist orbit, import large quantities of reading matter that is sold for ridiculously low prices. It is often possible to purchase a dozen high quality Communist magazines for the price of one popular American magazine. In addition to the Soviet Union and Red China, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Bulgaria, North Korea, and strangely enough, the Communist Party of the United States have provided material available to Tokyo's millions and, in considerably lesser amounts, throughout the country. The secret of the Communist tactic would appear to be their close cooperation with and reliance upon local groups who do the actual spreading of the material to the public.

LERCH: There are, of course, anti-Communist publications, including strong and influential dailies such as the "Tokyo Shimbun." In spite of their ingenuity and industry, the Communists have not gained the support that might be expected from their activities.

SEGALOFF: In the final analysis, it must be remembered that Japan has the most well informed, intelligent population in all of Asia. They are not likely to be led astray easily. They will make final decisions themselves.

LERCH: Many thanks, Louis Segaloff for visiting with us today. This is John Lerch in Tokyo, bidding you Sayonara until next week at this time.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ THEME UP AND OUT _

ANNCR: Tape recorded each week in Tokyo, Report from Japan is written and produced by John Lerch.

(END)

SCRIPT SIX JOHN LERCH

REPORT FROM JAPAN

MUSIC: ____THEME ESTABLISH (5 SECS.) UNDER

ANNCR: REPORT FROM JAPAN! (EMPHASIS). A program of information and commentary, treating current issues in Japan. This program is produced on tape recording in Tokyo. Here, now, is your host: John Lerch.

MUSIC: ____THEME OUT__

LERCH: Variety keynotes our program today. For we have an interview with Miss Aiko Kitaoka, costume designer who recently returned from 3 years modelling and designing dresses in the United States; then we turn to the local ceramics show in order to learn something about the beautiful kiln-wares of Japan. Furthermore we'll put the spotlight on the bustling economy of Okinawa. But now its time for the highlights in the news.

MUSIC: ____RADIO DOCUMENTARY (NEWSREEL) ESTAB. UNDER

ANNCR: HIGHLIGHTS IN THE NEWS FROM JAPAN!

Japanese Art Treasures will Tour Western Europe.

LERCH: An impressive array of Japanese art will tour Western Europe next year according to Yukiyo Yashiro of the Japanese National Commission for the Protection of National Treasures. It has been decided to limit the travelling exhibit to paintings and sculpture. Perhaps the considerable success of a similar exhibition in the United States two years ago determined the choice. About 100 items will be included in the display, many of them very old, coming from the Imperial Household collection.

ANNCR: JAPAN now has diplomatic ties with a total of 64 countries.

LERCH: The Foreign Office recently revealed that Japan has diplomatic relations with 64 nations; 45 of which resumed

relations with Japan since the end of the Pacific War. Japan itself re-opened relations with 16 nations by exchanging official documents. Normal relations were opened by exchange of ambassadors or ministers with two other countries. Sudan is the latest country to have diplomatic relations with Japan. Japan has 88 diplomatic and consular establishments abroad. She still does not have diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

ANNCR: A Big Repair Job is Started on Himeji Castle.

LERCH: An eight year, 540 million yen repair job on famous Himeji Castle is to get underway this summer late. Since the whole structure is deteriorating, it was decided to dismantle and completely repair the castle long since named a National Treasure. Because of its white walls, Himeji Castle has been likened to a snowy heron and is commonly called the Snowy Heron Castle. Considered the most beautiful in Japan, the castle was built 360 years ago; and is a superb example of native Japanese feudal architecture.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ RADIO DOCUMENTARY (UP AND OUT)_

ANNCR: Tokyo's Ceramics show again proves the high artistic skill of the Japanese.

LERCH: There are many types of ceramics made in Japan, each differing according to the kiln at which it is made, and the traditions which each represents.

Among those popular for refined taste and practical use, the Kiyomizu wares of Kyoto rank high. One of the main characteristics of the orthodox Kiyomizu wares is its so-called "some-tsuke" of under-glaze blue and white. These wares with smooth textured glaze are very pleasant both to sight and touch.

Reflecting the cultural tradition of centuries, the modern Kiyomizu china often possesses a design which is strikingly modern, and yet timeless in unassuming good taste.

Among other Kyoto wares there are articles with a sort of rustic refinement, quite different in effect from the blue-and-white Kiyomizu wares. These are comparatively soft-looking wares with designs painted on a thin yellowish glaze. They are often of irregular shape and design, each having an interesting personality and individuality of its own.

Skipping over the soft wares and unglazed wares which are made in various noted kilns throughout the country, we find the famous products of the Kutani kilns of Ishikawa Prefecture.

The Kutani wares are known for their minutely detailed execution of design as well as rich coloring and the profuse use of gold. The picture designs show the influence of Chinese design to a great extent. In other words, the Kutani wares with their elaborate designs and colors, present a marked contrast to the chaste simplicity of the blue and white Kiyomizu wares.

The first Kutani kiln is said to have been established over 300 years ago. There are many Kutani kilns in the district, and many types of Kutani wares are produced. For a touch of exotic elegance, the better of the Kutani wares have much to offer in the way of individual tea cups as well as complete tea sets (mainly in Japanese style), "Sake" sets, decorative flower vases and other such articles.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ THEME UP AND OUT BRIEFLY _ _ _

ANNCR: Now, we'll take a flying trip to Okinawa--840 sea miles south of Tokyo, and take a close-up of its new economy.

From all reports Okinawa is turning its economy inside out. During the past 10 years it has been gradually changing from an agricultural economy to a service economy--with Uncle Sam the big customer for the services.

This changeover, and the presence of the U.S. Army on Okinawa, is bringing a higher standard of living to an island so overcrowded and so poor in natural resources that it has never before in its history been able to earn its own living.

Okinawa has two "land problems." The first is a long standing one. The island is very badly suited for agriculture. There is not enough land to support half the population even with the most intensive, backbreaking cultivation. This is the real and basic Okinawan land problem.

THE SECOND Land Problem is of recent origin and results from the U.S. military use of Okinawan farm land for defense bases.

This "Land Problem" is undoubtedly the biggest source of U.S.-Okinawan tension today. It is the springboard from which Communist and left-wing agitators attempt to trample the growing cooperation between the two peoples. It is a source of unhappiness to U.S. and Okinawan leaders who are trying to build a prosperous future for the Ryukyus.

The plan fact is this: The U.S. military has taken 18,000 acres of land for its installations. This has been necessary in the light of the military realities of the day and responsible Okinawan leaders know it. The owners of the land are being fairly compensated.

But taking into account the drawbacks, let's take a second look at the Okinawan economy.

The Okinawan yen is rock-stable (120 to the dollar) and is one of the stronger world currencies. Exports this year will

reach $16 million, nearly three times what they were in 1937. Rice is not rationed. Direct U.S. aid to the Ryukyuans has dropped from a $50 million flood in 1949 to a $500,000 trickle last year.

Mirroring this prosperity is the rebuild capital city of Naha. In 1945 this was nothing but a pile of smouldering rubble. Today it is a bustling community whose main street is lined with modern department stores, theaters and office buildings.

Where has this prosperity come from? It has come mostly from "invisible exports"--services. Services sold to the U.S. military. THE IMPORTANCE of this "export" in the economy can be seen by comparing the amount of money earned by selling services with the amount earned by actual physical exports.

In 1951 Okinawa sold nothing on the world market. In 1954 exports were $7 million. In 1955 they jumped to $10 million. Estimated 1956 exports will hit $16 million.

At the same time, Okinawans will find a whopping $55 million in the pay envelopes they take home from U.S. Government sources this year. The services Okinawans render the U.S. here are on all levels of skill. Okinawans work on construction projects, as technicians, as clerks, as translators, as administrators.

The significance of this can hardly be estimated, because it seems sure that if Okinawa is to be self-sufficient in the future it will have to continue its shift from agriculture to a service and technological economy.

MUSIC: ____THEME UP AND OUT

LERCH: It is really too bad we're not on television now, for seated across from me is AIKO KITAOKA a beautiful young model and costume designer. Miss Kitaoka, you have returned recently

from the United States, haven't you?

AIKO: Yes. I have. I was in America for 3 years altogether.

LEACH: We want to go into the matter of Japanese women's clothes and perhaps you'd care to give the ladies a few pointers or suggestions about incorporating some Oriental style into their dress.

AIKO: If they like Oriental styles, American women might start by using Japanese lounging robes or sleeping jackets. But I'd like to think about it...

LEACH: And you were on TV and photographed in many magazines?

AIKO: I was on the DU MONT network with Sloan Simpson; and in several New York newspapers in Japanese dress.

LEACH: Now, Aiko-san, before we talk about the traditional kimono and basic Japanese dress, I'd like to ask if you think Tokyo could ever become a fashion center...such as Rome or Paris.

AIKO: Looking to be future, I think that Japan some day will become the fashion center for the Orient.

LEACH: Now I suppose that the kimono has been adapted to meet changing times; that it has evolved over the centuries.

AIKO: Yes, indeed. The earliest type of Japanese costume consisted of three pieces of clothing called the chihaya, yoi, and hakama. From these humble garments developed the kimono styles of today. The chihaya was a kind of coat slit down the front and covering the upper portion of the body. Men wore hakama over the lower half of their body, while women wore skirts called yoi around their hips. In a way, this was the period of the two-piece suit! And this type garment probably prevailed between the first and third century A.D.

LEACH: You know, we were looking at a collection of pictures shortly before coming into the studio, and I gasped when I saw

how elaborate in style and gorgeous in color the kimonos have been in the past.

AIKO-SAN: Especially for the geisha, Mr. Lerch, the "art-ful person" who really does not represent typical Japanese women but the doll-like creature.

LERCH: And the women at this time, I believe, wore a kimono called the ju-ni-hitoe or twelve-fold dress.

AIKO-SAN: That's right. Then from the stiffly formal wear of the past clothing became simplified to allow greater freedom of movement.

LERCH: Does the kimono, in your opinion, allow this freedom. Is it truly a practical garment?

AIKO-SAN: Well, remember that many Japanese women wear Western dress to work, the kimono at home. As do the men when they return home to relax. The kimono is a superb garment for lounging and keeping warm in our chilly little houses. So, we like both.

LERCH: Now, Aiko-san, when the women adopted the small-sleeve komono they put an obi or sash around it. This became the general style of the day throughout the country.

AIKO-SAN: And I think a highly practical garment.

LERCH: Usually made of what: cotton, silk?

AIKO-SAN:

LERCH: A word, if you will, on the accessories. Are fans required for a decorative effect?

AIKO-SAN: They are often used...but going out of fashion.

LERCH: What does a good kimono cost? I know they are expressive.

AIKO-SAN: A kimono costs about $200 - $300.

LERCH: Well, the art of designing the multi-colored kimono became world famous and I take it exclusively Japanese.

AIKO-SAN: Borrowed centuries ago from China!

LERCH: Do you have a fashion note or really smart tip for our listeners in the New World, Aiko-san?

AIKO-SAN: Wear what is truly becoming, and very this to suit the occasion. I have seen American women look lovely at a garden party or cocktail party in modified Japanese styling.

LERCH: You know, in conclusion I wonder how long the Japanese can keep up this double existence of wearing both Japanese and Western clothing? They are completely different.

AIKO-SAN: And yet combining the two would result in the loss of characteristic beauty of both. This means we should not regard the two as requiring a double existence. Or, wake up in the morning in Tokyo and say: Shall I be Japanese or Western today? But we must plan our lives over here in such a way as to preserve the individual merits of both types, and make them practical.

LERCH: Our thanks to you Miss Aiko Kitaoka, costume designer and model in Tokyo. (PAUSE). This is John Lerch bidding you sayonara until next week at this time.

MUSIC:_ _ _ _ _UP AND UNDER..

ANNCR: Tape recorded each week in Tokyo, REPORT FROM JAPAN is written and produced by John Lerch.

MUSIC:_ _ .. _ _UP AND OUT

(END)

SCRIPT FIVE

WRITER: JOHN LERCH

REPORT FROM JAPAN

MUSIC:_ _ _ _ _ THEME. ESTABLISH (5 SECONDS) UNDER.

ANNCR: REPORT FROM JAPAN! (EMPHASIS). A program of information and commentary treating current issues in Japan. This program is produced on tape recording in Tokyo. Here, now is your host: John Lerch.

MUSIC:_ _ _ _ _ THEME OUT.

LERCH: We are going to turn our full attention today to a problem that I am sure interests American listeners. Ever since returning to Japan, I've been probing this issue and I'm fortunate today to have as my guest a man who is admirably equipped to tackle "Attitudes toward America." We'll chat, then, with John Ishimoto in a few minutes about the causes of anti-Americanism, after we hear the news highlights.

MUSIC:_ _ _ _ _ RADIO DOCUMENTARY MARCH (NEWSREEL) ESTABL. UNDER

ANNCR: HIGHLIGHTS IN THE NEWS FROM JAP AN! (PAUSE)

A panel of foreigners appearing on a TV program criticized the manner in which the revision of the Japanese constitution is being pressed.

LERCH: A panel made up of an American, an Englishman, a Frenchman, a German and an Indian decided that the criterion should be whether the Constitution fits the needs of the people of Japan. They agreed that to condemn the constitution because it was promulgated by General Mac-Arthur is neither logical nor sensible. Actually, the only part of the Constitution which was written completely by the General was the preamble. And the original was in Japanese; later translated into English.

ANNCR: Recent University Graduates are selected for Appearance in Traditional Japanese Theatre: the Kabuki.

LERCH: In an effort to introduce fresh air into the tradition-ridden Kabuki, seven young university graduates were taken in. Picked from among 70 applicants throughout the country, the lucky 7 won after their final stage tests. They actually appeared as temporary actors on the stage of the Kabuki-za theatre. On the last day of the performance in Yokohama they were formally employed as members of the troupe. Kabuki fans watch this precedent-shattering move with interest, wondering whether it is a good thing or not.

ANNCR: The International Childrens' Festival Makes Colorful Feature Material for all Japanese Newspapers and Television Shows.

LERCH: An International Children's Festival was held recently at Hibiya Public Hall in Tokyo. It was primarily to promote good will among the children of the world whose families now live in Japan. About 2,500 children participated in the program this year, presenting skits and dances of their native lands. It is surprising at times how truly international Tokyo can be; and what great interest there is in international affairs and great programs such as these.

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY MARCH. UP AND OUT BRIEFLY.

LERCH: Just a few weeks ago, John Ishimoto was graduated in law from Keio University. He was the first former U.S. soldier to complete a law course at the university. Now, John, I believe you studied orginally at the University of Illinois.

ISHIMOTO: Yes, I was born in Illinois of Japanese parents.

LERCH: Tell us something of your experience in Japan. I believe you worked here in the Economic and Scientific Section of General MacArthur's headquarters.

ISHIMOTO: As a matter of fact I worked for 5 years there.

LERCH: Mr. Ishimoto is in an extremely advantageous position to comment on attitudes toward America. He is married to a Japanese, speaks fluent Japanese and English; has lived through 10 years of occupation and the new "security control" period. So, I think we'll plunge right in: What is the nature and extent of anti-American feeling among the Japanese people?

ISHIMOTO: Ten years have passed since General MacArthur first stepped from his plane at Atsugi airfield, and since that time Japanese have constantly been thrown into direct contact with American people. It is no wonder, then, that together with all the happy memories that the Japanese treasure from these years, there might be a certain number of bitter experiences.

LERCH: John, just to get the ball rolling on this touchy problem, do you think the May Day parades and demonstrations are mild protests of anti-Americanism...or a surging of nationalist feeling?

ISHIMOTO: It's true that over a million and a half workers throughout Japan staged a May Day celebration...the biggest yet. However ...

LERCH: One must not forget that the Japanese had never before known defeat in war, nor had a foreign army occupy their country, and the experience was one that was bound to affect them profoundly. Human beings, are so constructed the more they live together the more they become aware of each other's defect and come to criticize each other.

ISHIMOTO: No one would deny, therefore, that somewhere in the back of the Japanese mind there exists a certain amount of bad feeling towards America or the American people themselves. Perhaps they really harbor grievances against the Japanese Government which is responsible for handling relations with America. Nothing could be more misleading than to lump all such things together under the general heading of "anti-American feeling."

Nor does it mean, on the other hand, that we can explain anti-Americanism among the Japanese as a whole by confining the discussion to those Japanese who harbor, for political or ideological reason, a more or less clear-cut antagonism towards America.

LERCH: What, then, gives shape to anti-Americanism in general among the Japanese people?

ISHIMOTO: In trying to answer this, let's consider the town of Sunakawa, within the limits of Greater Tokyo--. Recently, a sensation was created there by a movement directed against the expansion of an American military air base. This ill-fated town has found itself in a dilemma because of the expansion of flying for the past thirty years! It happens to lie next to the famous Tachikawa Air Base. Thank to this unfortunate chance, it has had farm and building land requisitioned by the authorities on eleven separate occasions! The process began with the establishment of the former Japanese Army's Tachikawa flying school in 1926, and ended for the time being in November 1954. involving in all some 460,000 tsubo (about 375 acres) of land. The Japanese Government paid compensation on each occasion, but not once was it enough to satisfy the inhabitants. They were more than tired of requisitioning when, last April there came like a bolt from the blue the Government's latest edict. This was the result of an agreement between the Japanese and American Governments. "It has been decided," it said, "to requisition an area of approximately 30,000 tsubo (about 25 acres) in the course of an expansion of the Tachikawa airfield aimed at facilitating the take off and landing of American jet planes."

LERCH: Let me add that the concept of land in Japan, with its densely packed population, is different from that prevailing in countries such as America.

There is something very special in the way in which a Japanese clings to his land. Wherever one goes in Japan, the tiniest patch of land is treasured. Therefore, the immediate reaction of the townsfolk against the Government's requisitioning order was not merely apprehension concerning compensation. It was, rather, absolute opposition to the idea of being deprived of their land.

ISHIMOTO: That's right. Compensation is not the prime thing. But, did you know it takes at least three months--and more often six months before the compensation is actually paid in cash? When a claim for compensation is put in, the appropriate authorities from both sides have to start investigations into the circumstances surrounding the accident, and it often happens that trouble arises between the two sides in the course of such investigations.

LERCH: Another problem, more serious in one way than the ones we have already dealt with, arises in the wake of "fraternisation" activities by American troops. The fault doubtless lies partly in the fact that Japan has no definite laws dealing with the question of prostitution. It also lies, however, in the poverty which is as widespread as ever, and in the prevalence of petty operators who will do anything to scrape together a livelihood.

ISHIMOTO: Yes, wherever there is an American base, women of a certain type gather together in droves, and hastily improvise amusement centres which spring up overnight. The problem of such "fraternisation" is more difficult in Japan than in European countries where American troops have been stationed. This is doubtless due to racial differences and differences in customs and ways of life, which are far more conspicuous here than in Europe.

Such things are of comparatively little importance in large cities such as Tokyo and Osaka. But in the agricultural areas, where previous experience of foreigners is non-existent, the presence of American troops looms large. It often gives rise to heated controversies.

LEITCH: Such ill-feeling and discontent are probably due in part to the various inconveniences already mentioned which are caused in their daily lives by the presence of American bases. Japanese psychology is such that when damage or incidents occur which affect ordinary lives very intimately, they tend to attribute them to the presence of American troops in the country. Though they know (rationally) that the responsibility for improving matters lies primarily with the Japanese Government. Yet there is an emotional tendency to attribute the root of all evils ultimately to the American forces. If one puts forward the argument that American troops are stationed here because of an agreement with the Japanese Government based on the Security Pact, their only reaction is to say that such an agreement should not have been made in the first place.

ISHIMOTO: You know, this state of affairs in the large towns is at last beginning to be remedied. People have come to realise that it only invites unnecessary ill-feeling for the American forces to continue occupying large buildings in the centre of cities now that Japan has regained her independence. And a gradual exodus to the country has begun. Most of the private buildings requisitioned for army purposes in Occupation days have already been restored to their owners. By next summer the present relocation plan will be completed by and large, and except for a few unavoidable cases all American Army offices and living quarters will have been transferred to the country, or at least to the suburbs.

LERCH: Yes. I've read of such moves frequently in Tokyo. The questic might well be raised then "What's all the fuss about? The only reason why the American Army is here is because it's been asked by the Japanese Government to help preserve stability in the Far East. And that's supposed to include th. defense of Japan too. Don't forget that America is spending large sums of money to this end, nor that she's given considerable aid to Japane right from Occupation days and is still doing so now. Why, in other words, is Japan so ungrateful for all that is being done for her?

ISHIMOTO: The psychology of the Japanese is complex in the extreme. Defeat in war naturally wrought enormous changes in their outlook. Their wartime experiences were painful, and : defeat brought great misery in its wake. Above all, the ravages of the atomic bomb have given rise to a fierce determination never to get involved in another war, whatever else may happen. They feel, too, that if pre-war Japan had not unfortunately had such a powerful army the last war would never have happened, and have come to harbor the gravest doubts about any attempt to rebuild the country's defenses. These doubts are so great that one may be reminded with misgivings of the Japanese saying to the effect that "a burnt child sometimes dreads the cold ashes," yet one must remember the terrible power of the atomic bomb, which has seared itself into the minds of the Japanese people.

LERCH: Such ideas do represent one side of the case that must be taken into account in considering the question of troops and bases in Japan. At the same time they often ignore the role the continued presence of such troops plays in maintaining the international balance of power and in contributing to the sense of stability which the Japanese

people unconsciously derive from it.

ISHIMOTO: One further thing that more than serves to wipe out any feeling of gratitude among the Japanese towards the American Army is the suspicion that America is being driven by strategy to make Japan a base, using her as a tool for promoting her own military policies in the Far East. Is not American action in stationing troops in Japan, in other words, dictated solely by considerations of her own best interests? This feeling is strengthened by the fact that when Japan regained her independence the Occupation forces stayed on in Japan.

LERCH: The feelings of various sections of the country and among various groups: scholars students and intellectuals are not, however, sufficiently well-defined to be called "anti-Americanism" being confined, rather, to a sense of insecurity and helplessness in a world that contains the atomic and hydrogen bombs.

ISHIMOTO: And I think these inarticulate feelings might develop into a strong anti-Americanism, or more likely, a settled frame of mind permitting a confident approach to relations with America. The most important problem of the future as far as Japanese-American relations are concerned is how these feelings can best be guided into the right channels.

LERCH: Many thanks, John Ishimoto for exploring the problem one reads and hears a lot about, but rarely gets to pin down. And I think, frankly, the concern about "anti-Americanism" is one of the self-conscious nervous tremors of our time.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ THEME (5 SECS)

LERCH: This is John Lerch in Tokyo bidding you Sayonara until next week at this time.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ THEME UP AND OUT _

ANNCR: Tape-recorded each week in Tokyo, REPORT FROM JAPAN is written and produced by John Lerch.

(END)

SCRIPT FOUR WRITER: JOHN LERCH

REPORT FROM JAPAN

MUSIC:_ _ _ _THEME_ESTABLISH_(5 SECONDS)_UNDER_

ANNCR: REPORT FROM JAPAN! (EMPHASIS) A Program of information and commentary treating current issues in Japan. This program is produced on tape recording in Tokyo. Here now is your host, John Lerch.

MUSIC:_ _ _ _THEME_OUT_

LERCH: We have several interesting items on our agenda today. We're going to take a stroll down the colorful business heart of Tokyo known as the Ginza--the Fifth Avenue, the Champs Elysees of Tokyo. And with our guest we'll chat about two basic Japanese foods: soba and udon. Soba is a buckwheat noodle; served in a broth; udon is a flour noodle cheap, nourishing and, over here - indispensable. We'll also devote time to the International Fair at Osaka. However, let's listen now to HIGHLIGHTS IN THE NEWS.

MUSIC:_ _ _ _DOCUMENTARY_(NEWSREEL):_ ESTABLISH._ UNDER

ANNCR: HIGHLIGHTS IN THE NEWS FROM JAPAN!

MUSIC:_ _ _ _OUT_

ANNCR: Japan is building a huge dam at Sakuma for hydroelectric power. This will increase power production by 5 million k.w.

LERCH: Sakuma Dam on the Tenryu River will rise 529 feet and be 800 feet in length--the biggest in Japan, and seventh highest in the world. It will provide not only hydroelectric power, but irrigation and flood control--of great importance to Japan's agricultural economy.

ANNCR: NHK PLANS TO INSTALL 11 MORE TV STATIONS

LERCH: The Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK), now operating three television stations in Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya, respectively, will open 11 additional stations during the course of this spring and summer.

LERCH
(cont'd) Three of the new stations will start functioning this spring in Sendai, Hiroshima, and Fukuoka!

Eight others are to be built at a total cost of 394,500,000 yen. NHK's project is in line with the construction of a current nationwide microwave communication network by the Japan Telephone and Telegraph Company.

ANNCR: "Prisoner of Loneliness" is a sensational new book about the Crown Prince Akihito written by a friend and former classmate. It's causing a furor in Tokyo.

LERCH: A classmate of the Crown Prince has created quite a stir with a book charging that the young heir to the Imperial Throne is a "prisoner of loneliness." The book entitled KODOKU NO HITO (Lonely Man) tells of the special conditions which surrounded the Crown Prince while he was attending school, of the struggle between students regarding the Crown Prince. The author is 23 year old Taisuke Fujishima who was graduated from Gakushuin University and who was a classmate of the Crown Prince for 10 years. His theme is that the Crown Prince should be given his youth and be treated more like a human being.

ANNCR: Life Span of the Japanese is now longer by 14 years.

LERCH: The life expectancy of the Japanese lengthened by 14 years in the past 9 years and the death rate remarkably decreased, the Welfare Ministry noted recently in a White Paper on population.

According to the paper, the average span of human life for men is 64 and for women: 68 in 1956. It was 50 and 54 respectively in 1947. This was attributed to the decrease of tuberculosis, pneumonia and inflamation of the intestines. Heart disease and hardening of the arteries are not great killers in Japan.

LERCH (cont'd) This White Paper, by the way, said that a social security system was urgently needed to cope with the pressure of the increasing population and that measures were necessary to provide for the financial difficulties of the aged

ANNCR: The Ancient Mysteries of the Perilous Japanese Strait are to be Studied.

LERCH: The furious torrents and whirlpools making things rough for ships in Japan's Narute Strait are about to be studied in a daring expedition. Two hundred Japanese experts will work on the project. This area, between the island of Shikoku and the Islet of Awaji, off Kobe, is known as a "nightmare" to sailors. For 3 days the expedition will attempt to learn enough to expose the mysteries of the Strait, dramatized for centuries in Japanese myth and legend. The Narute Strait, incidentally, has become a must for tourists both from Japan and abroad.

MUSIC: _____(DOC. NEWSREEL) UP AND OUT.

LERCH: I have as my guest today Tokugen Yamamoto. He's going to tell us something about Soba and Udon--the popular Japanese food. In Tokyo alone over a million and a half dishes are sold per day! Well, tell us more about "Soba".

GUEST: Soba traces its origin back to the time of the Emperor Gensho (8th Century). It was introduced by a Chinese Buddhist Priest. As an emergency food in times of famine the value of soba was realized early.

LERCH: Let's see: Soba is a kind of buckwheat noodle; and udon corresponds roughly to a flour noodle, something like thick macaroni. In Italy they'd both be forms of pasta.

GUEST: That's right. Since soba flour is not suitable for cooking in the manner of Italian macaroni, a Korean priest many years ago tried mixing SOBA flour with wheat flour. Since then various improvements in cooking have been brought about, as a result of which SOBA became an indispensable food for the Japanese.

GUEST: (cont'd) You know that whenever a man moves to a new house, he holds a house-warming by giving a gift of soba to his neighbors. In the little soba shops (which may correspond to quick-lunch counters in the States) soba sells for about 30 yen a bowl. That's less than ten cents. With tempura (fried fish) it goes to 100 yen a bowl...or 30 cents. Soba is also sold by street vendors....

LERCH: The boys on bicycles are kind of good humor men! At night they have a special whistle to announce their wares!

GUEST: Udon (a wheat flour macaroni) also came originally from China, but some 500 years after soba was introduced. Both soba and udon served either hot or cold are important daily foods in Japan.

LERCH: I understand the number of Soba restaurants in Tokyo, for example, is estimated at close to 3,000. And that over a million and a half soba or udon dishes are eaten daily in Tokyo. Well, tell us about this buckwheat Tokugen.

GUEST: Buckwheat grows in Siberia, North Germany, Holland, other parts of Europe and in China and Japan. Japan's annual production reaches approximately 3 million bushels. To make a soba dish, we generally mix buckwheat flour and wheat flour on a 50-50 basis. If you see a Soba restaurant with the sign KISOBA it means that pure or 99 per cent soba is served.

LERCH: For the calorie conscious, this could be a problem.

GUEST: No, not really. For it contains many vitamins. Soba does rate higher than rice in calories...something like 350 calories per bowl of soba. Moreover, soba is a food rich in albumen...good for high blood pressure.

LERCH: One of the interesting sights in Japan is the soba boy delivering as many as 30 bowls of soba while riding his bicycle at full speed.

LERCH
(cont'd) Delivered to the customer's home or place of business, plain soba and soya broth sells for about 60 yen a bowl. Many thanks for telling us about SOBA Mr. Tokugen Yamamoto.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ THEME UP FOR SHORT PUNCTUATION...OUT.

LERCH: I'd like to stroll with you now down the Ginza, the most interesting part of downtown Tokyo. It is the heart of the business section and is affectionately and officially known as GINZA.

The crowds surging past the department stores, the staccato pitch of traffic, the pell-mell pace of people running in and out of shops, restaurants, bars, and hotels...this is part of the Ginza. But, the couples walking slowly in the dusk, the glittering neon signs, the night spots and little coffee shops...this is part of Ginza, too. Add to this the fortune tellers, the pin ball parlors, auction shops, curio shops and hot spring hotels. For the Ginza is a place of many moods and many activities. It is like the Loop in Chicago, Union Square in San Francisco, and parts of Fifth Avenue. Geographically located between the Tsukiji River and the Outer Moat, Ginza has an amazingly small static population of only 7 thousand people. But when morning breaks, hordes of salaried workers, shoppers and sight-seers converge on the area and the Ginza population leaps to half a million souls. Then, towards the evening, when the brightly-colored neons shout their defiance at the gathering dusk, the working crowds depart, leaving Ginza to the nocturanal merrymakers. Later they too depart, leaving Ginza deserted and forlorn with its little handful of permanent residents.

At this time, Ginza is a vacuum when compared with its surging life of the daylight hours.

LERCH (cont'd) Public transportation facilities have closed down for the night, the neon-signs are nearly all turned out, and the enticing shop windows are shuttered with wood and steel. The streets are cold, lonely and almost frightening. As all Tokyoites know, the price of land in Ginza is fabulously high and, in earlier times, people would say that one "sho" (about 2 liters) of land was worth one "sho" of money--the Japanese equivalent of the Western expression "worth its weight in gold."

It is natural, therefore, that buildings should cover every available lot and they should be standing wall to wall. These tightly packed buildings are deserted when day gives way to night on the Ginza.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ INTRODUCE THEME QUICKLY. UP AND OUT. (4 SEC)

ANNCR: The International Trade Fair is underway at Osaka. In scale and number of participants (and exhibits) the Fair is twice as large as its predecessor in 1954. Three thousand entrants from Japan; and 20 entrants from foreign countries occupy 1600 exhibition booths.

LERCH: The current fair is given added significance this year by the fact that the city of Osaka is now a member of the International Union of Fairs. This is Japan's first international trade exhibition since the country acquired representation in the Paris organization. UFI, by the way, is made up of 30 permanent trade fairs representing 16 nations.

At this time, I'd like to quote the address of John Snedaker, President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan. Mr. Snedaker's address is entitled: "Progress to Plenty--the Aim of this Fair." In fact, this is the official theme over the American pavillion, written large over the entrance: PROGRESS TO PLENTY.

MR. SNEDAKER: This is not only the theme of the U.S. exhibit but fundamentally the theme of Japan, the United States and all the Free World--for when there is plenty there is peace.

Realization of the fact that improved world living standards can be the greatest single deterrent to war, caused the United States, at the end of World II, to embark on an unprecedented program to help the free nations rehabilitate themselves, expand their economies and raise their standards of living.

Basically living standards are raised by producing more of the products and services of industry, business and agriculture and making these available to the consumer at prices he can afford. The process, wisely carried out, results in more employment, higher wages, more domestic consumption and more products available for export at competitive prices.

Maximum success requires at least 3 basic ingredients:

1. Research pointing to greater efficiency and improved techniques.

2. Capital to effect the improvements.

3. Vigorous, hard-working, skilled, educated, imaginative people to make the most of the opportunities for more efficient production and more effective sales and distribution techniques.

The United States, currently spending some $4-billion annually on research, has a wealth of technical know-how. America also has capital.

Japan has the hard-working, educated people but has lacked the research and capital required for success in rapidly improving living standards.

The postwar cooperation between Japan and the United States is an excellent example of what can be accomplished by a vigorous, educated, hardworking nation that has made

MR SNEDAKER
(cont'd) intelligent use of the research, experience and some of the capital which America offered to share.

Teams of Japanese business executives and labor leaders, sponsored by the Japan Productivity Center in cooperation with the U.S. Government, have visited the United States to exchange ideas on management, labor relations, technical advances and many other useful subjects.

International trade is the key to higher living standards around the world. We of the American business community congratulate Japan on her remarkable gains in this field and wish the third Japan International Trade Fair great success.

The Fair serves to dramatize Japan's continuing efforts to raise living standards through industrial and agricultural progress and improved trade--in short, her efforts to achieve the same aim that is emblazoned on the American exhibit at the Fair: "PROGRESS TO PLENTY."

ANNCR: These have been excerpts from John R. Snedaker's address on the opening of the International Trade Fair in Japan.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ THEME IN SOFTLY. HOLD UNDER.

LERCH: This is John Lerch in Tokyo bidding you sayonara until next week at this time.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ UP AND UNDER.

ANNCR: Tape recorded each week in Tokyo, REPORT FROM JAPAN is written and produced by John Lerch.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ UP AND OUT.

-END-

John Lerch file

REPORT FROM JAPAN

A NEW SERIES OF FIFTEEN MINUTE RADIO PROGRAMS

INFORMATION COMMENTARY INTERVIEWS

TREATING CURRENT ISSUES IN JAPAN

PRODUCED FOR

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL BROADCASTERS

BY

JOHN LERCH

IN

TOKYO

LISTEN TO REPORT FROM JAPAN 1956-57

SCRIPT THREE WRITER: LERCH

REPORT FROM JAPAN

MUSIC: ____ THEME ESTABLISH (5 SECS) UNDER ____

ANNCR: REPORT FROM JAPAN!! (EMPHASIS). A program of information and commentary treating current issues in Japan. This program is produced on tape recording in Tokyo. Here, now, is your host, John Lerch.

MUSIC: ____ THEME OUT _

LERCH: There are several items on our program agenda: An explanation of the outdoor advertising of Japan - the NOREN and a cultural feature dealing with the miniature landscapes prepared on trays, known as BONKEI. We also have a profile on Emperor Hirohito. First, however, let us hear the highlights in the news from Japan.

MUSIC: ____ RADIO DOCUMENTARY MARCH (NEWSREEL) ESTABLISH UNDER

ANNCR: HIGHLIGHTS IN THE NEWS FROM JAPAN!

Audio products have a brisk sale throughout the country. The picture of hi-fi equipment is bright for export; and the peoples' interest in hi-fi gradually increasing.

LERCH: Under the name "hi-fi" the audio products field has come in for a great deal of attention in Japan in recent months. With tea rooms and cabarets putting emphasis on hi-fi facilities, and with steady improvement in home radio equipment, this industry has been booming. Music lovers of both classical and jazz recordings now study hi-fi trends closely. This is now the L.P. era in Japan! In the past, the high cost of hi-fi equipment kept it out of reach of the ordinary citizen. But today, prices are down, and more and more equipment gets into the average home. For example, an item selling for $30 in the United States must be produced for $10 or even $5 to make it popular here.

ANNCR: JAPANESE AUTO PLANTS TO BE BUILT IN THAILAND AND IN BRAZIL.

LERCH: Japan's auto circles are showing great interest in constructing plants overseas, according to the latest Economic Journal--Nihon Keizai. Reportedly, the Isuzu Motor Company and the Toyota Motor Company will take action soon in Brazil and Thailand. In all instances, Japanese car manufacturers will provide the technical know-how and actually produce the cars in the overseas localities.

ANNCR: The five day Asian Editors Conference of the International Press Institute closes in Tokyo.

LERCH: Tokyo, of late has been the site of many international conferences, but this is the first time for newspapernon from all over Asia to assemble here. Because of growing concern throughout Asia for the maintenance of a free press the Tokyo Conference was dedicated to "increase mutual understanding in order to contribute to world peace." As a result of this first Asian conference, good relations among working members of the press have been strengthened; and we have reason to believe the ASIAN STORY will now be better told.

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY (NEWSREEL) UP AND OUT

ANNCR: You have just heard Highlights in the News from Japan. (PAUSE) Now, Mr. Lerch has as his special guest, Mr. Koji Ohashi with whom he'll discuss the Japanese NOREN--the cloth curtain used as a sign before Japanese stores and restaurants.

LERCH: I'm delighted to have as my guest today, Mr. Koji Ohashi who is going to describe something of interest to the foreigner in Japan. I'm referring to the No-ren or shop sign. The displaying of noren (which literally means curtain) in front of shops bearing names and trade-marks in white on cotton cloth dyed black, brown, or grey...

this remains a time-honored characteristic Japanese commercial practice. But, now, let me turn the discussion over to Mr. Ohashi.

OHASHI: After first being used in temples as blinds or curtains since their introduction from China during the regime of the Ashi-kaga Shogunate, the cloth curtain came to replace the straw mats used until then. These mats were placed at Japanese shop doors for the purpose of keeping out wind and sun...but letting the customer walk in.

The NOREN came, in due time, to be looked on as a shop symbol. A kind of trade mark and status of reputation wound up in one.

Moreover, an interesting custom known as nore-wake or NOREN dividing still prevails in Japan. A shop apprentice, having become an expert in a certain trade and having served out his contracted term of service is formally authorized to begin business. He may do it with the use of his master's seal, coat-of-arms or noren. This, by the way, is a special and great honor, accorded only the best and most worthy apprentices.

Well, the noren has come to stand not only for the shop and its wares but also for its credit or good-will. So that any prospective buyer or a shop (apart from paying for the building, equipment, stock, etc.) is required to pay for "noren" as a form of good-will payment.

Used only before ordinary Japanese "sake" or rice-wine shops and restaurants there is a type of noren generally known as nawa-noren meaning rope curtain. But here is the original purpose: From the Chinese characters which compose the word, "noren" implies "rattan blind." This was transformed over the years to mean cloth curtains. Of course, these curtains or blinds served to keep out rain, wind, and bad weather. They still do today.

LERCH: They do, indeed, and are very decorative and dramatic. My thanks to you Mr. Koji Ohashi for telling us about the noren which is as common as the neon sign before a shop in the new world. (For that matter, don't think there isn't plenty of neon tubing in Tokyo.)

MUSIC: _ _ _ RE-INTRODUCE THEME BRIEFLY... UP.... AND OUT _ _ _

ANNCR: Spotlight on...the Emperor of Japan! Hirohito's change in status with the post-war Japanese constitution is a good indication of what's happened to Japan itself...with regard to the democratic spirit. His subjects now love him instead of holding him in awe. Mr. Lerch gives a profile on the Emperor.

LERCH: Probably the most extraordinary sight in post-war Japan is the Emperor, for the very reason that he can now be seen. Up to a decade ago, the Japanese people bowed low and averted their eyes when the
Imperial Presence passed in a car or even on a train. They would not have dared look at the descendant of the world's oldest unbroken imperial dynasty--124th descendant of the Sun Goddess. But, after the war, the people look straight at him: and they see an unassuming man with a toothbrush mustache, thick glasses, a shy smile, and a hesitant walk. And now they like him...the rotogravure pages on Sunday often picture the Emperor at home. Much like the English Sunday Supplements which dote on royalty. (PAUSE) Well, Hirohito, his Empress and the crown prince, Akihito...represent or symbolize unity in the Japanese traditional family life. On New Years Day I happened to be one of the many thousand who swarmed the Palace Grounds. An estimated 100,000 Japanese came to pay their respects as citizens and to look directly at their emperor. The man who inspires this devotion is a curious mixture of ancient tradition and modern tastes. Hirohito wears only Western clothes, prefers European cooking...

and very very simple cooking at that. He sleeps on a bed instead of a Japanese style tatami-mat. He has fought a a slow battle against the imperial household's 900 retainers, headed by a grand chamberlain. These retainers have controlled his life since babyhood. Apparently they do not carry too much weight with the crown prince.

Recently at 54, Hirohito achieved a lifelong ambition by attending a sumo wrestling match, where he was seen by the audience in the open and televised as an enthusiastic spectator.

MUSIC: _ _ _ THEME UP AND OUT (4 SEC. MAXIMUM) _ _

LERCH: I'd like to turn our attention to something beautiful and at the same time uniquely Japanese: the bonkei or miniature landscapes mounted on trays. Among the many fascinating things which one notices especially in the villages of Japan are these bonkei in shop windows. These artificial landscapes, small but perfect in detail, are often copies of an actual scene. Here to tell us more about the bonkei is KO TAKENAKA.

TAKENAKA: Bonkei landscapes consist of some kind of earthlike material which forms the foundation, the plains, the hills, and mountains. We find pebbles and sands, moss, small living (or artificial) trees and plants representing the flora, while the fauna as well as the little human figures and buildings are made of baked clay.

LERCH: For the making of tray landscapes comparatively few implements are necessary. One, two, or three, differently shaped and sized spatulas are the most important tools. These are to the modeller what the brush is to the painter.

Small sieves are used in connection with the laying of different kinds of pebbles and sands. Three types of brushes serve for putting color on the mountains and rocks; to smooth the surface of hills; and to clean pieces of unwanted material

from the tray before sifting on the fine bluish sands, which represent the water of rivers and lakes.

Superfluous water is removed by a syringe. Another syringe ending in a fine perforated nozzle is used for spraying the completed landscape to keep the material moist and fresh. A pair of pincers is of help when inserting clumps of living moss. Other aids produce the effect of tiny waves, or assist in the building of stone walls.

The trays on which the landscapes are displayed are generally rectangular, though sometimes oval-shaped. Superior ones are of bronze. The trays have low legs but no holes, and are placed on slightly larger wooden boards. Isn't this correct, Mr. Takenaka?

TAKENAKA: Yes it is. Japanese make the landscapes while in a sitting position on the matted floor. The tray is placed on a small table about two feet in height, two feet long, and one and a half wide. In the table are two or three drawers, and it is especially designed with a revolving top to enable the maker to turn the tray without lifting it, as the sides and back of the landscape are supposed to be equally neat and attractive.

Japan is rich in mountains, so we find on many trays mountains of some description. Mount Fuji, of course, is again and again represented, and the Japanese never tire of it. Fujisan, although seen so often in reality and in picture, is difficult to execute due to the subtleness of its peak and slopes.

The beautiful red of the shrines and torii could not be made better. All the many different buildings bear the closest examination, inside and out, some are particularly interesting for realistic touches, such as a door with loose hinges or a fallen roof tile.

The human figures on the trays show even greater care. There is no end to their variety. All classes of society, in all postures, in all sizes, to suit the size of the tray or the distance which they are supposed to be from the viewer

LERCH: All these figures should be used with economy and subtlety. Buildings and figures from the foreground to the far distance must decline in size. Well chosen, they assist in bringing out perspective.

TAKENAKA: Yes, and in this way one is able to re-create in miniature, a lovely landscape.

LERCH: Thank you so much Ko Takenaka for your practical talk on the art of Japanese tray landscapes in miniature. Our time is up for this week.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ THEME IN SOFTLY. HOLD UNDER

LERCH: This is John Lerch in Tokyo bidding you Sayonara until next week at this time.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ UP AND UNDER

ANNCR: Tape-recorded each week in Tokyo, REPORT FROM JAPAN is written and produced by John Lerch.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ UP AND OUT

(END)

SCRIPT TWO: WRITER: JOHN LERCH

REPORT FROM JAPAN

MUSIC:_ _ _ _ THEME ESTABLISH (5 SECS) UNDER_ _ _

ANNCR: REPORT FROM JAPAN (EMPHASIS). A program of information and commentary, treating current issues in Japan. This program is produced on tape recording in Tokyo. Here, now, is your host, John Lerch.

MUSIC:_ _ _ _ THEME _OUT_ _

LERCH: This time we have an interview with Kazuo Gomi, a young Japanese who is going places in television. He is a producer with NTV, Tokyo, and director of the international news section of that station. We'll chat with him about television; and later on we'll turn attention to the colorful and dramatic event of the season: cherry blossom time! First, however, the newsreel.

MUSIC:_ _ _ _ RADIO DOCUMENTARY MARCH (NEWSREEL) ESTAB. UNDER _ _

ANNCR: HIGHLIGHTS IN THE NEWS FROM JAPAN! (PAUSE)

Plans are fixed for Japan's biggest new hotel: The 450-room Tokyo Hilton.

LERCH: For many travellers and visitors to Tokyo, the old Imperial Hotel has usually and sentimentally been "the" hotel; but plans are underway for a new hotel to be ready in 1958 and that promises to be a glamorous landmark.

The new structure will cost from five to six million dollars and will be the largest in Japan.

The site of the hotel is not determined but it will be in the downtown area.

All rooms in the hotel will be air-conditioned. There will be a variety of restaurants, convention facilities, international shops, parking areas, recreational facilities, Japanese gardens, and Japanese baths.

Plans for the hotel will be prepared by leading Japanese architects in cooperation with American architects.

O.T.C.

From 2,000 to 3,000 Japanese workmen will participate in building the hotel and over 500 Japanese employees will be on the staff after the hotel has begun operation.

Key members of this staff will be trained in New York on the techniques and methods of the operation.

ANNCR: A government monopoly is proposed for the pearl industry.

LERCH: Japan has under study a plan to make the marketing of cultured pearls--a government monopoly.

The purpose of such a step would be to strengthen the industry--stabilize prices, and expand markets.

LERCH: Its effect could be to shut out foreign businessmen here from the pearl export market.

The proposal is only a paper scheme so far. Government officials promise not to put the plan into operation if the cultured pearl industry comes up with some self-policing methods to buck up their business.

Japan, which developed and holds a virtually complete world monopoly of cultured pearl production, exported $10,000,000 worth to foreign countries last year.

ANNCR: Philanthropist John D. Rockefeller opens a Tokyo Office of Products of Asia.

LERCH: Sales promotion has long been recognized as the weak link in Japan's export industries. Yet, relatively little has been done to strengthen Japan in this field in past years.

With few exceptions, Japanese firms have been reluctant to spend money for publicity and public relations on a planned, sustained basis.

Market research, an important phase of sales, has been neglected. It is generally recognized that Japanese industries could do much more than they have been doing to adapt their products to foreign tastes or develop original, new products for overseas consumers.

There have, of course, been notable exceptions to this rule. The postwar rise of Japan's camera industry is an example. And there has been increased awareness of the value of sales promotion since the war.

Now, a move to help Japan, comes from America. Philanthropist John D. Rockefeller, 3rd, who has already done a great deal for this country, has opened in Tokyo an office of his "Products of Asia, Inc."

The object of the group is to help the countries of Asia develop new products for the U.S. market and help sell what they already produce. A high-powered staff, led by Austin T. Groves, former president of John Wanamaker of New York directs the organization's activities. Certainly, Japan has every reason to applaud and give the warmest welcome to this project.

ANNCR: Couples here can divorce for 100 yen - or 28 cents - if both parties agree.

LERCH: You can get a divorce for 28 cents in Japan. That is, if there is mutual consent between a Japanese man and his wife.

They sign a paper, take it to a government ward office. It's filed. There's a service charge: 100 yen (28 cents). The couple need not state the reason for divorce. There's no waiting. No complications. No court procedure. The divorce is immediate.

The majority of all divorces in Japan are secured in this manner.

If a couple desires a divorce, but cannot agree on terms-- such as property settlement, disposition of children, or any other problem--then they take their case to the Tokyo Family Court.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ UP AND OUT _ _ _ _

LERCH: I have as my guest today Kazuo Gomi, of television station NTV. Tell us something about your job, Gomi.

GOMI: English newscast in Japan.

LERCH: Part of your training came in the United States, did it not? In particular at Ohio State University.

You've been with NTV since 1953. Right on the ground floor--

I'd like very much to have you explain Japanese television today. Something of its history, who operates the stations, the program structure, and so on.

GOMI: It was not until after World War II...that regular television broadcasting began in Japan. TV has since captured the public interest, and Japan is now in the midst of a television boom.

Broadcasting systems for both radio and TV are unique. Before the war, radio broadcasting in Japan was similar to that of Great Britain. The Japanese counterpart of the BBC, the Japan Broadcasting Corporation (Nippon Hoso Kyokai--NHK), owned and operated all radio stations. However, the postwar years have seen the development of a mixed or dual system in which both government and privately owned companies are are in radio and TV.

As one who has seen and heard radio and TV abroad, I believe that programs in countries where broadcasting is a government monopoly tend to be dull and stereotyped while in countries where broadcasting is entirely in commercial hands, advertizing is often too insistent and detracts from the interest of the programs.

In this respect, I believe the dual system we have in Japan has its special merits.

LERCH: Let me see, Gomi. There are in Tokyo three stations: NHK's JOAK-TV; and two commercial stations, JOAX and JOKR-TV. JOAK-TV, like all other NHK stations, naturally carries no commercials. It must keep its programs interesting enough to compete with the commercial stations for audiences.

GOMI: The commercial stations, on the other hand, must take care to restrict the length and nature of their commercials lest they in turn lose their viewers. This kind of competition is healthy and promotes both interest and restraint.

To pay for the costs of television broadcasting by NHK, TV set owners pay 300 yen monthly (about 85 U.S. cents) to this government corporation. The private television companies receive no fund support from the government and are dependent entirely on advertising for their revenues.

Outside Tokyo, there are at present TV stations in Osaka and Nagoya, both being NHK stations. In 1956, commercial TV stations will also begin operating in these two cities. NHK will open new TV stations during 1956 in Sendai, Sapporo, Hiroshima, Fukuoka and other principal cities.

LERCH: Now, Gomi, let me fill in with this information: To hook up these stations for nation-wide telecasts, the Japan Telephone and Telegraph Corporation is building a microwave relay network.

All presently operating TV stations in Japan have 10-kilowatt transmitters. However, when the gain in the transmitting antenna is figured in, the effective radiated power ranges from 70 to 150 kilowatts.

Currently, the usual TV broadcasting hours are from 11.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

What are some of the really popular programs?

GOMI: Among the most popular programs are such sports as wrestling, boxing and baseball. There are frequent telecasts direct from theaters of plays and musical shows. Portable TV cameras--the "Walkie-Lookie" is now manufactured in Japan--are coming into use for versatile remote pickup. Also by use of kinescope recording, films can be taken of events or programs for rebroadcasting at a more suitable time. Filmed programs such as Tele-News and musical programs are brought in from the United States.

Japan's production of both television receivers and transmitting equipment is developing rapidly both in volume and quality. The TV stations in Tokyo have transmitters built by RCA but those in Osaka and Nagoya are equipped with Japanese built transmitters. Other TV stations scheduled for future operation will also use Japanese-made equipment.

Practically all receivers now being sold in Japan are of domestic manufacture, current production being about 20,000 sets monthly, and rising.

LERCH: May I interrupt: What does a 17 inch set sell for?

GOMI: About $300.00

LERCH: Tell us something about the prospects for color.

GOMI: Research and development work is going forward on color TV. The field sequential CBS color system was demonstrated here several years back by NHK and Japan Columbia Company. Other new developments are color industrial television (ITV) in demonstrating major surgical operations, and underwater TV in making marine studies. The Vidicon camera used in the ITV system is now being manufactured in Japan.

LERCH: Thanks, so much, Kazuo Gori of Station NTV.....

ANNCR: The moment is ripe for a report on the big topic in Japan. The subject which is discussed daily, which grows and grows in intensity with the warm spring weather: the cherry blossom season. Here is John Lerch with a special report.

LERCH: In no country of the world does the cult of flower worship reach such devotional heights as in Japan during cherry blossom time. Every spring, starting the first of April in Southern Kyushu and advancing through central Honshu (where Tokyo is)... ending in northern Hokkaido in May, the cherry blossom fever sweeps like a floral tidal wave across Japan.

And, no one is immune to this fragrant over-flow of pink and white beauty. At one time or another, depending on climatic influences that stir or retard the cherry blossoms, practically every tourist who happens to be in the country participates in some form of cherry blossom worship. As the sakura - or cherry blossom-season approaches, the Japanese press issues bulletins covering day-to-day developments of the flowers: lists announcing when and where the blooms will be at their most fragrant. When the weather is bad, bulletins appear such as: COLD FRONT MOVING SOUTHWARD, MAY DELAY BLOSSOMS. The general depression accompanying a bulletin of this type is replaced, however, with jubilation when such a bulletin as this appears: the blossoms are here! For, the day the trees finally stand glowing across the landscape in pink and white loveliness, city crowds storm train stations to get to the countryside and parks... More than a million people last year passed through UENO station in Tokyo on a single day at the height of the cherry blossoming.

April, in Japan then, has one supreme meaning: cherry blossom time! And Japanese cities burst out in a rash of pink. The cherry blossoms are called the "flower of flowers" in a land that is sometimes known as the flower kingdom. During the brief blooming season, crowds of Japanese are seen in their happiest moods. In the parks

sitting on the grass, one will find family groups observing the traditional cherry festival: by making a picnic with sushi (rice with seaweed, fish or vegetable); sake (light rice wine); and yokan (a sweet jelly flavored with chestnuts). Sometimes corporations in Japan will declare a holiday and everyone goes to a picnic, the company providing the transportation and the sake. But sitting under the branches of a cherry tree speckled with pink and white blossoms in the peaceful spring weather is the Japanese idea of earthly paradise. Although the cherry is extensively cultivated in Japan, it also grows wild on plains and deep in the mountains. The cherry is called sakura meaning blooming and taken from the name of Princess Kono-hana-no sakuya Hime... who is enshrined atop Mount Fuji.

Of all the flowers, the cherry blossoms have the greatest appeal to the esthetic taste of the Japanese people. A grove of cherry trees in bloom appeal to them as stately, glorious, and youthful. And as such they have charmed the Japanese somewhat mystically, through the ages. They have always inspired them, made them cheerful and jubilant.

The lover of cherry blossoms says that cherry flowers have played an important part in moulding Japanese character, and maintains that the Japanese people would never have been so youthful and optimistic a race had it not been for the benign influence of cherry blossoms in the spring.

Well, the cherry buds are swelling rapidly these days under the mellow spring sunshine, and will soon burst forth. The cherry blossom season is the topic of the hour in Tokyo for the people are impatiently looking forward to a holiday outing. And for about three weeks in April, the festive spirit of the season will reign. By night there is yozakura--- or dancing under the trees; by day, vistas of beauty which

seem imaginary and breath-taking. And perhaps the happiest thought of all is "under cherry blossoms, none are strangers."

LERCH: In closing our REPORT, we have time to mention the gold fish peddler. I've seen three or four already, and so it won't be long until many gold fish peddlers with their carts (portable aquariums) are on the streets. They shout "KINN-GYOOI"--which means "gold fish" and this means SPRING is here.

MUSIC:_ _ _ _ THEME (5 SEC)

LERCH: This is John Lerch in Tokyo bidding you SAYONARA until next week at this time.

MUSIC:_ _ _ _ THEME UP AND OUT

ANNCR: Tape-recorded each week in Tokyo, Report From Japan is written and produced by John Lerch!--

(END)

SCRIPT ONE: WRITER: LERCH

REPORT FROM JAPAN

MUSIC: THEME ESTABLISH (5 SECONDS) UNDER

ANNCR: REPORT FROM JAPAN (EMPHASIS) A program of information and commentary treating current issues in Japan. This program is produced on tape recording in Tokyo. Here, now is your host: John Lerch.

MUSIC: THEME OUT

LERCH: This is our introductory report from Japan. First, we'll take a bird's eye view of the country, its people, and the strengthening national economy.

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY (NEWSREEL) ESTABLISH UNDER

ANNCR: HIGHLIGHTS IN THE NEWS--FROM JAPAN.
The growth of population in Japan is phenomenal.

MUSIC: OUT

LERCH: The Japanese population has grown at the rate of 7.3 per cent during the past five years, and the nation's six major cities are faced with an increasing influx of people from the rural areas according to a report just released from the Statistics Bureau.
Japan now ranks fifth in the world following China, India, Soviet Russia, and the United States. Japan ranks with the Netherlands and Belgium as one of the countries with the highest rate of population density. There are now five cities in Japan with over 1 million people. Tokyo: 6,900,000; Osaka: 2,500,000; Nagoya, 1,300,000; Kyto: 1,200,000; Yokohama: 1,150,000 and Kobe an even million.

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY UP UNDER

ANNCR: Professor Reichshauer of Harvard declares the stirring of Asia toward modernization more important than the cold war between free and communist nations.

MUSIC: DOCUMENTARY OUT

LERCH: Dr. Edwin Reichshauer of Harvard, noted author of Japan Past and Present this week stated in Tokyo that Japan's modernization was the most important single event in the Far East. Dr. Reichshauer speaking at the Industry Club pointed out that a great role awaits Japan in molding Asia.... and this importance lies in the ideological field. In the past, Japan proved that an Asian nation could modernize and keep step with the West. In the future, Japan could demonstrate that democracy will work in an Asian country; and the experience of the Japanese people can be of immense service to the rest of Asia. Dr. Reichshauer deplored the spiritual isolation of Japan in Asia, at present, but predicted that the gap between the Japanese and other Asian peoples would be bridged in time.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ DOCUMENTARY UP AND UNDER _

ANNCR: Business Circles in Japan are enthusiastic over the helpful new guide released on how to do business with American firms.

LERCH: The exporter attempting to break into the American market faces what appears to be a formidable problem. It is immense, complex, and frustrating. Many businessmen in Japan have spent weeks or months trying to figure out the best selling approach to introduce their products in the United States. Two prominent American advertising executives got together not long ago to furnish the perplexed Japanese executive some straight answers to his problems. The result is a 64 page pamphlet entitled the U.S. Market for OVERSEAS GOODS -- a gold mine of valuable information, tips, and suggestions; and probably the only booklet of its kind in print. Translated into Japanese it is now in the hands of hundreds of Japanese executives, and their response is overwhelmingly enthusiastic.

MUSIC:____DOCUMENTARY OUT_

ANNCR: You have heard highlights in the News from Japan... now for the commentary on Japan and Her People.

LERCH: Let's take a look now at this fascinating country more properly called NIHON. (PAUSE) Standing on the bridge of heaven, the two deities, Izanagi and Izanami, looked down upon the great ocean. Izanagi dipped his jeweled spear in the water, and as he lifted it, salt water dropped from the point and solidified to form the first of the islands of Japan. Izanagi and Izanami descended to the new land, married, and began to people heaven and earth. By washing his left eye, Izanagi produced the Sun Goddess, Amaterasu-O-mikami. She took over the rule of heaven and passed earth over to her grandson and his descendants, the Emperors of Japan. This is the beguiling Shintoist explanation of origins - right down to the present Emperor. Thus, Japan's primitive folk religion of nature gods and divine ancestors is linked from its beginning with the Japanese throne. The result was SHINTO - the way of the gods - and although officially abolished after the war, it has seen a new birth. In fact 80,000 of the original 110,000 shrines are back in operation.

Let's turn to the land of Fujiyama itself. The first glimpse of Japan is apt to be disappointing to the stranger--the environs of Haneda airport or the Yokohama and Kobe Docks are less impressive than are most national entrance gateways. But once the traveller is ashore, and reaches the Japan that lies beyond the initial drabness, a transformation happens. The impact of Japan varies with the individual, but surprisingly (OFTEN) Japan makes an impression such as is rarely created elsewhere upon experienced travellers away from their homelands.

This beguiling fact, attested by many who have known Japan best and longest, was impressed on me when I returned to this country a few months ago. On the boat were people who had lived in Tokyo for many years, and others coming here for the first time. Both groups had visited many of the fabled places of the world---from Europe to Hongkong. It would have been difficult to decide which category of traveller was the most anxious to get ashore. The strange lure which Japan exercises on so many minds is in evidence around the world -- I've met many people in many lands who knew Japan in former days and upon whom this country has left a deep and abiding imprint. For you see, there is such a thing (call it a cliche if you will) as the "lure of the Orient". By comparison with most of Europe -- and still more so the well-to-do cities of the United States---- Japanese towns are dirty, drab, over-populated, and lacking in elementary facilities. The country's roads are for the most part not worthy of the name. Tokyo's stores are colorful, but a sad letdown after the States.

Yet, the fact remains that the magnetic tug of Japan triumphs over these disadvantages, and large numbers of Westerners see this country as a most fascinating and attractive land -- a nation in which they can feel more completely at home than in many of the better-endowed places of the earth. People who can turn their backs upon the cities of Europe without a qualm, admit they seldom depart Japan's shores without a certain sadness of parting -- and return here with a warm inner feeling of contentment. The explanation of this phenomenon lies, I believe not in the material but the mental sphere -- in the atmosphere created by the Japanese people and the nation's conduct of its daily life.

Returning to Japan after two years in the States, I am (again)

impressed by its apparent peace and contentment. Despite many problems, the Japanese still smile more than most people. Public officials -- at least those with whom the visitor comes into contact -- are courteous and friendly. And to a unique degree the whole Yamato race gives an impression of being interested in the visitor's comfort and condern to make the stranger feel welcome.

Add to that the quiet beauty of the country, a deep sense of tradition and timelessness, plus the simplicity and graciousness of Japanese life at its best, and it is not difficult to understand the impact which Japan makes upon many foreign minds.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ THEME UP AND OUT _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

VOICE II: Japan is an Asian nation inhabited by a race of people who a century ago were living in, and conditioned by, an agrarian economy which had remained unchanged through centuries. Then came the Meiji miracle -- and railroads, spinning mills, shipyards, modern armaments, big business, parliamentary government, hydro-electric plants, diplomacy, exports and imports, a growing bureaucracy, and the Westerners with their new ideas.

Almost overnight, as the progress of nations is measured, everything changed. Everything, that is, except the people of Japan, who continued to order their lives in accordance with 17th century notions, traditions and beliefs even as they tended 20th century machines and by their energies transformed this nation from a primitive agricultural economy into a world power. While this country lags behind the West in some aspects of government and social consciousness and technical skills, it has on the other hand retained enough of the former Japan and its graces to remind one that its life is still

fashioned and conditioned by the traditions of centuries. And so it happens that there are few foreigners who, seeing today's Japan through Western eyes, are not alternately discouraged and encouraged by the atmosphere and conditions existing in a land which is materially modern and mentally ancient. Japan strikes one as an amalgam of old and new, of the poet Lafcadio Hearn and big business, of cherry blossoms and strict financial regulations.

The most remarkable single fact about postwar Japan is the degree of success with which an additional fifteen million people are being provided for -- somehow and with no unemployment crisis -- with exports still running well below prewar levels. The next most remarkable fact is that, despite low incomes, rising prices, and an acute shortage of housing and space, the country remains tranquil, and people reasonably contented. Therefore, the nation's social problems differ widely in nature and degree from those confronting wealthier Western countries, and they must be solved in the Japanese way.

LERCH: This requires on our part, patience, understanding and perhaps, for good measure, a few grains of Oriental fatalism. (PAUSE)

In concluding our introductory report, I'd like to call attention to some reading material that should prove valuable. Two highly informative bibliographies both written by Dr. Hyman Kublin of Brooklyn College offer the most informative list of books, articles, and references to Japan that I have seen.

7 One booket: WHAT SHALL I READ ON JAPAN published by the Japan Society of New York ranges over the field of geography, religion, literature, history, and economics all on Japan. The second bibliography put out in a short pamphlet entitled PAGES ON ASIA, A Citizen's Reading Guide, is published by the University of Delaware Extension Division, Newark,

Delaware. This duplicates some of the works listed in WHAT SHALL I READ ON JAPAN but also includes China, Formosa, Tibet, the Philippines, Siam, and other South East Asian countries. I commend both of these booklets to your attention; and I am sure they will enrich your appreciation of the Orient. So here's to good reading and I hope greater enjoyment of Report From Japan.

This is John Lorch in Tokyo bidding you Sayonara until next week at this time.

MUSIC: _ _ _ _ THEME UP AND OUT _

ANNCR: Tape recorded each week in Tokyo, REPORT FROM JAPAN is written and produced by Hohn Lorch.

(END)

Scanned from the National Association of Educational Broadcasters Records
at the Wisconsin Historical Society as part of
"Unlocking the Airwaves: Revitalizing an Early Public and Educational Radio Collection."

A collaboration among the Maryland Institute for Technology in the Humanities,
University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Communication Arts,
and Wisconsin Historical Society.

Supported by a Humanities Collections and Reference Resources grant from
the National Endowment for the Humanities

MITH MARYLAND INSTITUTE FOR TECHNOLOGY IN THE HUMANITIES

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

WISCONSIN UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE Humanities

Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication/collection do not necessarily reflect those of the National Endowment for the Humanities